

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 27, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 1, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1579

Introduced by Assembly Member Stone
(Principal coauthor: Senator Mitchell)

January 30, 2014

An act to ~~amend~~ *amend, repeal, and add* Section 11450 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to public social services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1579, as amended, Stone. CalWORKs: ~~pregnant mothers. women.~~

Existing federal law provides for allocation of federal funds through the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant program to eligible states. Existing law provides for the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program under which, through a combination of state and county funds and federal funds received through the TANF program, each county provides cash assistance and other benefits to qualified low-income families. Existing law provides that when a family does not include a needy child qualified for aid under CalWORKs, aid shall be paid to a pregnant mother for the month in which the birth is anticipated and for the 3-month period immediately prior to the month in which the birth is anticipated.

This bill ~~would~~ *would, beginning July 1, 2015,* instead provide that when a family does not include a needy child qualified for aid under CalWORKs, aid shall be paid to a pregnant woman ~~each month that she is pregnant, beginning~~ *for the month in which she submitted*

~~verification of her pregnancy to the county. the birth is anticipated and for the 6-month period immediately prior to the month in which the birth is anticipated.~~

Existing law continuously appropriates moneys from the General Fund to defray a portion of county costs under the CalWORKs program.

This bill would instead provide that the continuous appropriation would not be made for purposes of implementing the bill.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
2 Healthy Babies Act of 2014.

3 SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

4 (a) Women who experience multiple stressful situations during
5 pregnancy, such as homelessness, hunger, violence, and deep
6 poverty, are more likely to have premature and low birth weight
7 babies, or to experience high rates of mother and infant mortality.
8 The cost of medical care for pre-term births is much higher than
9 for full-term births, and the human costs of infant mortality are
10 immeasurable.

11 (b) Children whose birth mothers experience the harmful stressor
12 of deep poverty are more likely to suffer poor health and less likely
13 to succeed academically.

14 (c) Domestic violence causes more health problems among
15 pregnant women than any other single cause. Without the support
16 of the CalWORKs program, low-income pregnant women have
17 few alternatives and are more likely to endure abuse that will cause
18 long- and short-term harm to both themselves and their unborn
19 fetus.

20 SEC. 3. Section 11450 of the Welfare and Institutions Code,
21 as amended by Section 37 of Chapter 21 of the Statutes of 2013,
22 is amended to read:

23 11450. (a) (1) Aid shall be paid for each needy family, which
24 shall include all eligible brothers and sisters of each eligible
25 applicant or recipient child and the parents of the children, but
26 shall not include unborn children, or recipients of aid under Chapter
27 3 (commencing with Section 12000), qualified for aid under this
28 chapter. In determining the amount of aid paid, and notwithstanding

the minimum basic standards of adequate care specified in Section 11452, the family's income, exclusive of any amounts considered exempt as income or paid pursuant to subdivision (e) or Section 11453.1, determined for the prospective semiannual period pursuant to Sections 11265.1, 11265.2, and 11265.3, and then calculated pursuant to Section 11451.5, shall be deducted from the sum specified in the following table, as adjusted for cost-of-living increases pursuant to Section 11453 and paragraph (2). In no case shall the amount of aid paid for each month exceed the sum specified in the following table, as adjusted for cost-of-living increases pursuant to Section 11453 and paragraph (2), plus any special needs, as specified in subdivisions (c), (e), and (f):

Number of eligible needy persons in the same home	Maximum aid
1.....	\$ 326
2.....	535
3.....	663
4.....	788
5.....	899
6.....	1,010
7.....	1,109
8.....	1,209
9.....	1,306
10 or more.....	1,403

If, when, and during those times that the United States government increases or decreases its contributions in assistance of needy children in this state above or below the amount paid on July 1, 1972, the amounts specified in the above table shall be increased or decreased by an amount equal to that increase or decrease by the United States government, provided that no increase or decrease shall be subject to subsequent adjustment pursuant to Section 11453.

(2) The sums specified in paragraph (1) shall not be adjusted for cost of living for the 1990–91, 1991–92, 1992–93, 1993–94, 1994–95, 1995–96, 1996–97, and 1997–98 fiscal years, and through

1 October 31, 1998, nor shall that amount be included in the base
2 for calculating any cost-of-living increases for any fiscal year
3 thereafter. Elimination of the cost-of-living adjustment pursuant
4 to this paragraph shall satisfy the requirements of Section 11453.05,
5 and no further reduction shall be made pursuant to that section.

6 (b) (1) When the family does not include a needy child qualified
7 for aid under this chapter, aid shall be paid to a pregnant child who
8 is 18 years of age or younger at any time after verification of
9 pregnancy, in the amount that would otherwise be paid to one
10 person, as specified in subdivision (a), if the child, and her child,
11 if born, would have qualified for aid under this chapter. Verification
12 of pregnancy shall be required as a condition of eligibility for aid
13 under this subdivision.

14 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), when the family does not
15 include a needy child qualified for aid under this chapter, aid shall
16 be paid to a pregnant woman for ~~each month that she is pregnant,~~
17 ~~beginning the month in which she submitted verification of her~~
18 ~~pregnancy to the county, the birth is anticipated and for the~~
19 ~~three-month period immediately prior to the month in which the~~
20 ~~birth is anticipated,~~ in the amount that would otherwise be paid
21 to one person, as specified in subdivision (a), if the woman and
22 child, if born, would have qualified for aid under this chapter.
23 Verification of pregnancy shall be required as a condition of
24 eligibility for aid under this subdivision.

25 (3) Paragraph (1) shall apply only when the Cal-Learn Program
26 is operative.

27 (c) The amount of forty-seven dollars (\$47) per month shall be
28 paid to pregnant mothers qualified for aid under subdivision (a)
29 or (b) to meet special needs resulting from pregnancy if the mother,
30 and child, if born, would have qualified for aid under this chapter.
31 County welfare departments shall refer all recipients of aid under
32 this subdivision to a local provider of the Women, Infants and
33 Children program. If that payment to pregnant mothers qualified
34 for aid under subdivision (a) is considered income under federal
35 law in the first five months of pregnancy, payments under this
36 subdivision shall not apply to persons eligible under subdivision
37 (a), except for the month in which birth is anticipated and for the
38 three-month period immediately prior to the month in which
39 delivery is anticipated, if the mother, and the child, if born, would
40 have qualified for aid under this chapter.

1 (d) For children receiving AFDC-FC under this chapter, there
2 shall be paid, exclusive of any amount considered exempt as
3 income, an amount of aid each month which, when added to the
4 child's income, is equal to the rate specified in Section 11460,
5 11461, 11462, 11462.1, or 11463. In addition, the child shall be
6 eligible for special needs, as specified in departmental regulations.

7 (e) In addition to the amounts payable under subdivision (a)
8 and Section 11453.1, a family shall be entitled to receive an
9 allowance for recurring special needs not common to a majority
10 of recipients. These recurring special needs shall include, but not
11 be limited to, special diets upon the recommendation of a physician
12 for circumstances other than pregnancy, and unusual costs of
13 transportation, laundry, housekeeping services, telephone, and
14 utilities. The recurring special needs allowance for each family
15 per month shall not exceed that amount resulting from multiplying
16 the sum of ten dollars (\$10) by the number of recipients in the
17 family who are eligible for assistance.

18 (f) After a family has used all available liquid resources, both
19 exempt and nonexempt, in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100),
20 with the exception of funds deposited in a restricted account
21 described in subdivision (a) of Section 11155.2, the family shall
22 also be entitled to receive an allowance for nonrecurring special
23 needs.

24 (1) An allowance for nonrecurring special needs shall be granted
25 for replacement of clothing and household equipment and for
26 emergency housing needs other than those needs addressed by
27 paragraph (2). These needs shall be caused by sudden and unusual
28 circumstances beyond the control of the needy family. The
29 department shall establish the allowance for each of the
30 nonrecurring special need items. The sum of all nonrecurring
31 special needs provided by this subdivision shall not exceed six
32 hundred dollars (\$600) per event.

33 (2) Homeless assistance is available to a homeless family
34 seeking shelter when the family is eligible for aid under this
35 chapter. Homeless assistance for temporary shelter is also available
36 to homeless families which are apparently eligible for aid under
37 this chapter. Apparent eligibility exists when evidence presented
38 by the applicant, or which is otherwise available to the county
39 welfare department, and the information provided on the
40 application documents indicate that there would be eligibility for

1 aid under this chapter if the evidence and information were verified.
2 However, an alien applicant who does not provide verification of
3 his or her eligible alien status, or a woman with no eligible children
4 who does not provide medical verification of pregnancy, is not
5 apparently eligible for purposes of this section.

6 A family is considered homeless, for the purpose of this section,
7 when the family lacks a fixed and regular nighttime residence; or
8 the family has a primary nighttime residence that is a supervised
9 publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary
10 living accommodations; or the family is residing in a public or
11 private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular
12 sleeping accommodation for human beings. A family is also
13 considered homeless for the purpose of this section if the family
14 has received a notice to pay rent or quit. The family shall
15 demonstrate that the eviction is the result of a verified financial
16 hardship as a result of extraordinary circumstances beyond their
17 control, and not other lease or rental violations, and that the family
18 is experiencing a financial crisis that could result in homelessness
19 if preventative assistance is not provided.

20 (A) (i) A nonrecurring special need of sixty-five dollars (\$65)
21 a day shall be available to families of up to four members for the
22 costs of temporary shelter, subject to the requirements of this
23 paragraph. The fifth and additional members of the family shall
24 each receive fifteen dollars (\$15) per day, up to a daily maximum
25 of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125). County welfare
26 departments may increase the daily amount available for temporary
27 shelter as necessary to secure the additional bedspace needed by
28 the family.

29 (ii) This special need shall be granted or denied immediately
30 upon the family's application for homeless assistance, and benefits
31 shall be available for up to three working days. The county welfare
32 department shall verify the family's homelessness within the first
33 three working days and if the family meets the criteria of
34 questionable homelessness established by the department, the
35 county welfare department shall refer the family to its early fraud
36 prevention and detection unit, if the county has such a unit, for
37 assistance in the verification of homelessness within this period.

38 (iii) After homelessness has been verified, the three-day limit
39 shall be extended for a period of time which, when added to the
40 initial benefits provided, does not exceed a total of 16 calendar

1 days. This extension of benefits shall be done in increments of one
2 week and shall be based upon searching for permanent housing
3 which shall be documented on a housing search form; good cause;
4 or other circumstances defined by the department. Documentation
5 of a housing search shall be required for the initial extension of
6 benefits beyond the three-day limit and on a weekly basis thereafter
7 as long as the family is receiving temporary shelter benefits. Good
8 cause shall include, but is not limited to, situations in which the
9 county welfare department has determined that the family, to the
10 extent it is capable, has made a good faith but unsuccessful effort
11 to secure permanent housing while receiving temporary shelter
12 benefits.

13 (B) A nonrecurring special need for permanent housing
14 assistance is available to pay for last month's rent and security
15 deposits when these payments are reasonable conditions of securing
16 a residence, or to pay for up to two months of rent arrearages, when
17 these payments are a reasonable condition of preventing eviction.

18 The last month's rent or monthly arrearage portion of the
19 payment (i) shall not exceed 80 percent of the family's total
20 monthly household income without the value of CalFresh benefits
21 or special needs for a family of that size and (ii) shall only be made
22 to families that have found permanent housing costing no more
23 than 80 percent of the family's total monthly household income
24 without the value of CalFresh benefits or special needs for a family
25 of that size.

26 However, if the county welfare department determines that a
27 family intends to reside with individuals who will be sharing
28 housing costs, the county welfare department shall, in appropriate
29 circumstances, set aside the condition specified in clause (ii) of
30 the preceding paragraph.

31 (C) The nonrecurring special need for permanent housing
32 assistance is also available to cover the standard costs of deposits
33 for utilities which are necessary for the health and safety of the
34 family.

35 (D) A payment for or denial of permanent housing assistance
36 shall be issued no later than one working day from the time that a
37 family presents evidence of the availability of permanent housing.
38 If an applicant family provides evidence of the availability of
39 permanent housing before the county welfare department has
40 established eligibility for aid under this chapter, the county welfare

1 department shall complete the eligibility determination so that the
2 denial of or payment for permanent housing assistance is issued
3 within one working day from the submission of evidence of the
4 availability of permanent housing, unless the family has failed to
5 provide all of the verification necessary to establish eligibility for
6 aid under this chapter.

7 (E) (i) Except as provided in clauses (ii) and (iii), eligibility
8 for the temporary shelter assistance and the permanent housing
9 assistance pursuant to this paragraph shall be limited to one period
10 of up to 16 consecutive calendar days of temporary assistance and
11 one payment of permanent assistance. Any family that includes a
12 parent or nonparent caretaker relative living in the home who has
13 previously received temporary or permanent homeless assistance
14 at any time on behalf of an eligible child shall not be eligible for
15 further homeless assistance. Any person who applies for homeless
16 assistance benefits shall be informed that the temporary shelter
17 benefit of up to 16 consecutive days is available only once in a
18 lifetime, with certain exceptions, and that a break in the consecutive
19 use of the benefit constitutes permanent exhaustion of the
20 temporary benefit.

21 (ii) A family that becomes homeless as a direct and primary
22 result of a state or federally declared natural disaster shall be
23 eligible for temporary and permanent homeless assistance.

24 (iii) A family shall be eligible for temporary and permanent
25 homeless assistance when homelessness is a direct result of
26 domestic violence by a spouse, partner, or roommate; physical or
27 mental illness that is medically verified that shall not include a
28 diagnosis of alcoholism, drug addiction, or psychological stress;
29 or, the uninhabitability of the former residence caused by sudden
30 and unusual circumstances beyond the control of the family
31 including natural catastrophe, fire, or condemnation. These
32 circumstances shall be verified by a third-party governmental or
33 private health and human services agency, except that domestic
34 violence may also be verified by a sworn statement by the victim,
35 as provided under Section 11495.25. Homeless assistance payments
36 based on these specific circumstances may not be received more
37 often than once in any 12-month period. In addition, if the domestic
38 violence is verified by a sworn statement by the victim, the
39 homeless assistance payments shall be limited to two periods of
40 not more than 16 consecutive calendar days of temporary assistance

1 and two payments of permanent assistance. A county may require
2 that a recipient of homeless assistance benefits who qualifies under
3 this paragraph for a second time in a 24-month period participate
4 in a homelessness avoidance case plan as a condition of eligibility
5 for homeless assistance benefits. The county welfare department
6 shall immediately inform recipients who verify domestic violence
7 by a sworn statement pursuant to clause (iii) of the availability of
8 domestic violence counseling and services, and refer those
9 recipients to services upon request.

10 (iv) If a county requires a recipient who verifies domestic
11 violence by a sworn statement to participate in a homelessness
12 avoidance case plan pursuant to clause (iii), the plan shall include
13 the provision of domestic violence services, if appropriate.

14 (v) If a recipient seeking homeless assistance based on domestic
15 violence pursuant to clause (iii) has previously received homeless
16 avoidance services based on domestic violence, the county shall
17 review whether services were offered to the recipient and consider
18 what additional services would assist the recipient in leaving the
19 domestic violence situation.

20 (vi) The county welfare department shall report to the
21 department through a statewide homeless assistance payment
22 indicator system, necessary data, as requested by the department,
23 regarding all recipients of aid under this paragraph.

24 (F) The county welfare departments, and all other entities
25 participating in the costs of the CalWORKs program, have the
26 right in their share to any refunds resulting from payment of the
27 permanent housing. However, if an emergency requires the family
28 to move within the 12-month period specified in subparagraph
29 (E), the family shall be allowed to use any refunds received from
30 its deposits to meet the costs of moving to another residence.

31 (G) Payments to providers for temporary shelter and permanent
32 housing and utilities shall be made on behalf of families requesting
33 these payments.

34 (H) The daily amount for the temporary shelter special need for
35 homeless assistance may be increased if authorized by the current
36 year's Budget Act by specifying a different daily allowance and
37 appropriating the funds therefor.

38 (I) No payment shall be made pursuant to this paragraph unless
39 the provider of housing is a commercial establishment, shelter, or

1 person in the business of renting properties who has a history of
2 renting properties.

3 (g) The department shall establish rules and regulations ensuring
4 the uniform application statewide of this section.

5 (h) The department shall notify all applicants and recipients of
6 aid through the standardized application form that these benefits
7 are available and shall provide an opportunity for recipients to
8 apply for the funds quickly and efficiently.

9 (i) Except for the purposes of Section 15200, the amounts
10 payable to recipients pursuant to Section 11453.1 shall not
11 constitute part of the payment schedule set forth in subdivision
12 (a).

13 The amounts payable to recipients pursuant to Section 11453.1
14 shall not constitute income to recipients of aid under this section.

15 (j) For children receiving Kin-GAP pursuant to Article 4.5
16 (commencing with Section 11360) or Article 4.7 (commencing
17 with Section 11385) there shall be paid, exclusive of any amount
18 considered exempt as income, an amount of aid each month, which,
19 when added to the child's income, is equal to the rate specified in
20 Sections 11364 and 11387.

21 (k) (1) This section shall become operative on April 1, 2013.
22 A county shall implement the semiannual reporting requirements
23 in accordance with the act that added this section no later than
24 October 1, 2013.

25 (2) Upon implementation described in paragraph (1), each
26 county shall provide a certificate to the director certifying that
27 semiannual reporting has been implemented in the county.

28 (3) Upon filing the certificate described in paragraph (2), a
29 county shall comply with the semiannual reporting provisions of
30 this section.

31 *(l) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2015, and,*
32 *as of January 1, 2016, is repealed, unless a later enacted statute,*
33 *that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2016, deletes or*
34 *extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.*

35 SEC. 4. Section 11450 is added to the Welfare and Institutions
36 Code, to read:

37 11450. (a) (1) (A) Aid shall be paid for each needy family,
38 which shall include all eligible brothers and sisters of each eligible
39 applicant or recipient child and the parents of the children, but
40 shall not include unborn children, or recipients of aid under

Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 12000), qualified for aid under this chapter. In determining the amount of aid paid, and notwithstanding the minimum basic standards of adequate care specified in Section 11452, the family's income, exclusive of any amounts considered exempt as income or paid pursuant to subdivision (e) or Section 11453.1, determined for the prospective semiannual period pursuant to Sections 11265.1, 11265.2, and 11265.3, and then calculated pursuant to Section 11451.5, shall be deducted from the sum specified in the following table, as adjusted for cost-of-living increases pursuant to Section 11453 and paragraph (2). In no case shall the amount of aid paid for each month exceed the sum specified in the following table, as adjusted for cost-of-living increases pursuant to Section 11453 and paragraph (2), plus any special needs, as specified in subdivisions (c), (e), and (f):

<i>Number of eligible needy persons in the same home</i>	<i>Maximum aid</i>
<i>1.....</i>	<i>\$ 326</i>
<i>2.....</i>	<i>535</i>
<i>3.....</i>	<i>663</i>
<i>4.....</i>	<i>788</i>
<i>5.....</i>	<i>899</i>
<i>6.....</i>	<i>1,010</i>
<i>7.....</i>	<i>1,109</i>
<i>8.....</i>	<i>1,209</i>
<i>9.....</i>	<i>1,306</i>
<i>10 or more.....</i>	<i>1,403</i>

(B) If, when, and during those times that the United States government increases or decreases its contributions in assistance of needy children in this state above or below the amount paid on July 1, 1972, the amounts specified in the above table shall be increased or decreased by an amount equal to that increase or decrease by the United States government, provided that no increase or decrease shall be subject to subsequent adjustment pursuant to Section 11453.

(2) *The sums specified in paragraph (1) shall not be adjusted for cost of living for the 1990–91, 1991–92, 1992–93, 1993–94, 1994–95, 1995–96, 1996–97, and 1997–98 fiscal years, and through October 31, 1998, nor shall that amount be included in the base for calculating any cost-of-living increases for any fiscal year thereafter. Elimination of the cost-of-living adjustment pursuant to this paragraph shall satisfy the requirements of Section 11453.05, and no further reduction shall be made pursuant to that section.*

(b) (1) *When the family does not include a needy child qualified for aid under this chapter, aid shall be paid to a pregnant child who is 18 years of age or younger at any time after verification of pregnancy, in the amount that would otherwise be paid to one person, as specified in subdivision (a), if the child, and her child, if born, would have qualified for aid under this chapter. Verification of pregnancy shall be required as a condition of eligibility for aid under this subdivision.*

(2) *Notwithstanding paragraph (1), when the family does not include a needy child qualified for aid under this chapter, aid shall be paid to a pregnant woman for the month in which the birth is anticipated and for the six-month period immediately prior to the month in which the birth is anticipated, in the amount that would otherwise be paid to one person, as specified in subdivision (a), if the woman and child, if born, would have qualified for aid under this chapter. Verification of pregnancy shall be required as a condition of eligibility for aid under this subdivision.*

(3) *Paragraph (1) shall apply only when the Cal-Learn Program is operative.*

(c) *The amount of forty-seven dollars (\$47) per month shall be paid to pregnant mothers qualified for aid under subdivision (a) or (b) to meet special needs resulting from pregnancy if the mother, and child, if born, would have qualified for aid under this chapter. County welfare departments shall refer all recipients of aid under this subdivision to a local provider of the Women, Infants and Children program. If that payment to pregnant mothers qualified for aid under subdivision (a) is considered income under federal law in the first five months of pregnancy, payments under this subdivision shall not apply to persons eligible under subdivision (a), except for the month in which birth is anticipated and for the three-month period immediately prior to the month in which*

1 *delivery is anticipated, if the mother, and the child, if born, would*
2 *have qualified for aid under this chapter.*

3 *(d) For children receiving AFDC-FC under this chapter, there*
4 *shall be paid, exclusive of any amount considered exempt as*
5 *income, an amount of aid each month which, when added to the*
6 *child's income, is equal to the rate specified in Section 11460,*
7 *11461, 11462, 11462.1, or 11463. In addition, the child shall be*
8 *eligible for special needs, as specified in departmental regulations.*

9 *(e) In addition to the amounts payable under subdivision (a)*
10 *and Section 11453.1, a family shall be entitled to receive an*
11 *allowance for recurring special needs not common to a majority*
12 *of recipients. These recurring special needs shall include, but not*
13 *be limited to, special diets upon the recommendation of a physician*
14 *for circumstances other than pregnancy, and unusual costs of*
15 *transportation, laundry, housekeeping services, telephone, and*
16 *utilities. The recurring special needs allowance for each family*
17 *per month shall not exceed that amount resulting from multiplying*
18 *the sum of ten dollars (\$10) by the number of recipients in the*
19 *family who are eligible for assistance.*

20 *(f) After a family has used all available liquid resources, both*
21 *exempt and nonexempt, in excess of one hundred dollars (\$100),*
22 *with the exception of funds deposited in a restricted account*
23 *described in subdivision (a) of Section 11155.2, the family shall*
24 *also be entitled to receive an allowance for nonrecurring special*
25 *needs.*

26 *(1) An allowance for nonrecurring special needs shall be*
27 *granted for replacement of clothing and household equipment and*
28 *for emergency housing needs other than those needs addressed by*
29 *paragraph (2). These needs shall be caused by sudden and unusual*
30 *circumstances beyond the control of the needy family. The*
31 *department shall establish the allowance for each of the*
32 *nonrecurring special need items. The sum of all nonrecurring*
33 *special needs provided by this subdivision shall not exceed six*
34 *hundred dollars (\$600) per event.*

35 *(2) (A) Homeless assistance is available to a homeless family*
36 *seeking shelter when the family is eligible for aid under this*
37 *chapter. Homeless assistance for temporary shelter is also*
38 *available to homeless families which are apparently eligible for*
39 *aid under this chapter. Apparent eligibility exists when evidence*
40 *presented by the applicant, or which is otherwise available to the*

1 county welfare department, and the information provided on the
2 application documents indicate that there would be eligibility for
3 aid under this chapter if the evidence and information were
4 verified. However, an alien applicant who does not provide
5 verification of his or her eligible alien status, or a woman with no
6 eligible children who does not provide medical verification of
7 pregnancy, is not apparently eligible for purposes of this section.

8 (B) A family is considered homeless, for the purpose of this
9 section, when the family lacks a fixed and regular nighttime
10 residence; or the family has a primary nighttime residence that is
11 a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to
12 provide temporary living accommodations; or the family is residing
13 in a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used
14 as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings. A family
15 is also considered homeless for the purpose of this section if the
16 family has received a notice to pay rent or quit. The family shall
17 demonstrate that the eviction is the result of a verified financial
18 hardship as a result of extraordinary circumstances beyond their
19 control, and not other lease or rental violations, and that the family
20 is experiencing a financial crisis that could result in homelessness
21 if preventative assistance is not provided.

22 (A) (i) A nonrecurring special need of sixty-five dollars (\$65)
23 a day shall be available to families of up to four members for the
24 costs of temporary shelter, subject to the requirements of this
25 paragraph. The fifth and additional members of the family shall
26 each receive fifteen dollars (\$15) per day, up to a daily maximum
27 of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125). County welfare
28 departments may increase the daily amount available for temporary
29 shelter as necessary to secure the additional bedspace needed by
30 the family.

31 (ii) This special need shall be granted or denied immediately
32 upon the family's application for homeless assistance, and benefits
33 shall be available for up to three working days. The county welfare
34 department shall verify the family's homelessness within the first
35 three working days and if the family meets the criteria of
36 questionable homelessness established by the department, the
37 county welfare department shall refer the family to its early fraud
38 prevention and detection unit, if the county has such a unit, for
39 assistance in the verification of homelessness within this period.

1 (iii) After homelessness has been verified, the three-day limit
2 shall be extended for a period of time which, when added to the
3 initial benefits provided, does not exceed a total of 16 calendar
4 days. This extension of benefits shall be done in increments of one
5 week and shall be based upon searching for permanent housing
6 which shall be documented on a housing search form; good cause;
7 or other circumstances defined by the department. Documentation
8 of a housing search shall be required for the initial extension of
9 benefits beyond the three-day limit and on a weekly basis thereafter
10 as long as the family is receiving temporary shelter benefits. Good
11 cause shall include, but is not limited to, situations in which the
12 county welfare department has determined that the family, to the
13 extent it is capable, has made a good faith but unsuccessful effort
14 to secure permanent housing while receiving temporary shelter
15 benefits.

16 (B) (i) A nonrecurring special need for permanent housing
17 assistance is available to pay for last month's rent and security
18 deposits when these payments are reasonable conditions of
19 securing a residence, or to pay for up to two months of rent
20 arrearages, when these payments are a reasonable condition of
21 preventing eviction.

22 (ii) The last month's rent or monthly arrearage portion of the
23 payment (I) shall not exceed 80 percent of the family's total
24 monthly household income without the value of CalFresh benefits
25 or special needs for a family of that size and (II) shall only be
26 made to families that have found permanent housing costing no
27 more than 80 percent of the family's total monthly household
28 income without the value of CalFresh benefits or special needs
29 for a family of that size.

30 (iii) However, if the county welfare department determines that
31 a family intends to reside with individuals who will be sharing
32 housing costs, the county welfare department shall, in appropriate
33 circumstances, set aside the condition specified in subclause (II)
34 of the preceding paragraph.

35 (C) The nonrecurring special need for permanent housing
36 assistance is also available to cover the standard costs of deposits
37 for utilities which are necessary for the health and safety of the
38 family.

39 (D) A payment for or denial of permanent housing assistance
40 shall be issued no later than one working day from the time that

1 a family presents evidence of the availability of permanent housing.
2 If an applicant family provides evidence of the availability of
3 permanent housing before the county welfare department has
4 established eligibility for aid under this chapter, the county welfare
5 department shall complete the eligibility determination so that the
6 denial of or payment for permanent housing assistance is issued
7 within one working day from the submission of evidence of the
8 availability of permanent housing, unless the family has failed to
9 provide all of the verification necessary to establish eligibility for
10 aid under this chapter.

11 (E) (i) Except as provided in clauses (ii) and (iii), eligibility
12 for the temporary shelter assistance and the permanent housing
13 assistance pursuant to this paragraph shall be limited to one period
14 of up to 16 consecutive calendar days of temporary assistance and
15 one payment of permanent assistance. Any family that includes a
16 parent or nonparent caretaker relative living in the home who has
17 previously received temporary or permanent homeless assistance
18 at any time on behalf of an eligible child shall not be eligible for
19 further homeless assistance. Any person who applies for homeless
20 assistance benefits shall be informed that the temporary shelter
21 benefit of up to 16 consecutive days is available only once in a
22 lifetime, with certain exceptions, and that a break in the consecutive
23 use of the benefit constitutes permanent exhaustion of the
24 temporary benefit.

25 (ii) A family that becomes homeless as a direct and primary
26 result of a state or federally declared natural disaster shall be
27 eligible for temporary and permanent homeless assistance.

28 (iii) A family shall be eligible for temporary and permanent
29 homeless assistance when homelessness is a direct result of
30 domestic violence by a spouse, partner, or roommate; physical or
31 mental illness that is medically verified that shall not include a
32 diagnosis of alcoholism, drug addiction, or psychological stress;
33 or, the uninhabitability of the former residence caused by sudden
34 and unusual circumstances beyond the control of the family
35 including natural catastrophe, fire, or condemnation. These
36 circumstances shall be verified by a third-party governmental or
37 private health and human services agency, except that domestic
38 violence may also be verified by a sworn statement by the victim,
39 as provided under Section 11495.25. Homeless assistance payments
40 based on these specific circumstances may not be received more

1 often than once in any 12-month period. In addition, if the domestic
2 violence is verified by a sworn statement by the victim, the homeless
3 assistance payments shall be limited to two periods of not more
4 than 16 consecutive calendar days of temporary assistance and
5 two payments of permanent assistance. A county may require that
6 a recipient of homeless assistance benefits who qualifies under
7 this paragraph for a second time in a 24-month period participate
8 in a homelessness avoidance case plan as a condition of eligibility
9 for homeless assistance benefits. The county welfare department
10 shall immediately inform recipients who verify domestic violence
11 by a sworn statement pursuant to clause (iii) of the availability of
12 domestic violence counseling and services, and refer those
13 recipients to services upon request.

14 (iv) If a county requires a recipient who verifies domestic
15 violence by a sworn statement to participate in a homelessness
16 avoidance case plan pursuant to clause (iii), the plan shall include
17 the provision of domestic violence services, if appropriate.

18 (v) If a recipient seeking homeless assistance based on domestic
19 violence pursuant to clause (iii) has previously received homeless
20 avoidance services based on domestic violence, the county shall
21 review whether services were offered to the recipient and consider
22 what additional services would assist the recipient in leaving the
23 domestic violence situation.

24 (vi) The county welfare department shall report to the
25 department through a statewide homeless assistance payment
26 indicator system, necessary data, as requested by the department,
27 regarding all recipients of aid under this paragraph.

28 (F) The county welfare departments, and all other entities
29 participating in the costs of the CalWORKs program, have the
30 right in their share to any refunds resulting from payment of the
31 permanent housing. However, if an emergency requires the family
32 to move within the 12-month period specified in subparagraph
33 (E), the family shall be allowed to use any refunds received from
34 its deposits to meet the costs of moving to another residence.

35 (G) Payments to providers for temporary shelter and permanent
36 housing and utilities shall be made on behalf of families requesting
37 these payments.

38 (H) The daily amount for the temporary shelter special need
39 for homeless assistance may be increased if authorized by the

1 current year's Budget Act by specifying a different daily allowance
2 and appropriating the funds therefor.

3 (I) No payment shall be made pursuant to this paragraph unless
4 the provider of housing is a commercial establishment, shelter, or
5 person in the business of renting properties who has a history of
6 renting properties.

7 (g) The department shall establish rules and regulations
8 ensuring the uniform application statewide of this section.

9 (h) The department shall notify all applicants and recipients of
10 aid through the standardized application form that these benefits
11 are available and shall provide an opportunity for recipients to
12 apply for the funds quickly and efficiently.

13 (i) (A) Except for the purposes of Section 15200, the amounts
14 payable to recipients pursuant to Section 11453.1 shall not
15 constitute part of the payment schedule set forth in subdivision
16 (a).

17 (B) The amounts payable to recipients pursuant to Section
18 11453.1 shall not constitute income to recipients of aid under this
19 section.

20 (j) For children receiving Kin-GAP pursuant to Article 4.5
21 (commencing with Section 11360) or Article 4.7 (commencing with
22 Section 11385) there shall be paid, exclusive of any amount
23 considered exempt as income, an amount of aid each month, which,
24 when added to the child's income, is equal to the rate specified in
25 Sections 11364 and 11387.

26 (k) (1) A county shall implement the semiannual reporting
27 requirements in accordance with Chapter 501 of the Statutes of
28 2011 no later than October 1, 2013.

29 (2) Upon implementation described in paragraph (1), each
30 county shall provide a certificate to the director certifying that
31 semiannual reporting has been implemented in the county.

32 (3) Upon filing the certificate described in paragraph (2), a
33 county shall comply with the semiannual reporting provisions of
34 this section.

35 (l) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2015.

1 ~~SEC. 4.~~

2 *SEC. 5.* No appropriation pursuant to Section 15200 of the
3 Welfare and Institutions Code shall be made for purposes of this
4 act.

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